

**From:** Miles B. Kehoe  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/14/02 8:40pm  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

Enough already!

I am a partner in a small software development firm - I've been making my living for over 25 years in computer programming and consulting.

Perhaps none of the organized Microsoft opposition are happy with settling this unjust legal action by the United States: they would have us step back into a time of operating system chaos and incompatibility.

None of the States Attorney Generals are required by law to use Microsoft products; let them go out and buy a competitive operating system and then find software to use with it.

There ARE operating system AND application choices out there. It is not Microsoft's fault that their competitors, with less vision and less concern for the ultimate end user, made serious business and technical mistakes that caused their products to flounder while Microsoft spent billions of dollars on user testing, quality testing, and innovative software development.

No company anywhere in the technology world has done more for end users, developers, and for the industry as a whole than Microsoft. The government, seeing someone making a great deal of money in return for their investment, has decided that the best way to get their piece of the action is to hassle, fine, and intimidate Microsoft. When several competitors get together to try to negatively impact another company in an industry, it is called 'restraint of trade' - unless, that is, you can buy more congressmen, senators, and politicians to rule in your favor.

It's no accident that the NASDAQ market index collapsed on the day Microsoft was charged in this foolish waste of taxpayer money; and that the entire industry has been depressed since the government has been pursuing this folly.

Get it over - end the harassment and let the industry get back to innovating.

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